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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Belgium/Greece/Poland

DATE DISTR.

3 Nov. 1950

SUBJECT

Arrest of Leonidas Stringos and Vasilios Asprides

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE **ACQUIRED** 25X1A

RETURN TO GIA

NO. OF ENCLS.

DATE OF

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO

- 1. Following their conviction by Belgian authorities on 11 October 1950, Leonidas Stringos* and Vasilios Asprides**, Greek Communists who were arrested in Brussels on 9 July 1950, were given asylum by the Polish Legation there and left by air for Warsaw on 14 October.
- Stringos and Asprides were involved in an OENO (Federation of Greek Maritime Unions) underground railway across France and Belgium. They had gone from France to Belgium to organize the Greek seamen there.

Comment: Stringos is well known as a high-ranking Moscowtrained official of the KKE (Greek Communist Party) who was Minister 25X1A of Finance in the Greek guerrilla government. This is the first time that he has been connected with Greek seamen's activities.

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the individual arrested with Asprides to be Leonidas Gastrinos, a seaman active in recruiting for the OENO and getting contributions for the EA (National Mutual Aid, a Greek Communist-front charity organization).

Comment: Asprides is a Greek seaman who was reported to be 25X1A** a KKE finance officer.

BY CABLE

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